

§ 703.8

matters under consideration by the Committee.

[44 FR 75151, Dec. 19, 1979]

§ 703.8 Meetings.

(a) Meetings of a Committee shall be convened by the designated Commission employee, or, subject to his/her approval, by the Chairperson, or by a majority of the Committee members. The agenda for such Committee or subcommittee meeting shall be approved by the designated Commission employee.

(b) A quorum shall consist of one-half or more of the members of the Committee, or five members, whichever is the lesser, except that with respect to the conduct of factfinding meetings as authorized in paragraph (e) of this section, a quorum shall consist of three members.

(c) Notice of all meetings of a Committee shall be given to the public.

(1) Notice shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER at least 15 days prior to the meetings, provided that in emergencies, such requirement may be waived.

(2) Notice of meetings shall be provided to the public by press releases and other appropriate means.

(3) Each notice shall contain a statement of the purpose of the meeting, a summary of the agenda, and the time, place, and location of such meeting.

(d) Except as provided for in paragraph (d)(1) of this section, all meetings of committees or subcommittees shall be open to the public.

(1) The Assistant Staff Director for Regional Programs may authorize a committee or subcommittee to hold a meeting closed to the public if he/she determines that the closing of such meeting is in the public interest: *Provided*, That prior to authorizing the holding of a closed meeting the Assistant Staff Director will have requested and received the opinion of the Solicitor of the Commission with respect to whether the meeting may be closed under one or more of the exemptions provided in the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c).

(2) In the event that any meeting or portion thereof is closed to the public, the Committee shall publish, at least annually, in summary form a report of

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the activities conducted in meetings not open to the public.

(e) Advisory Committees and subcommittees may hold factfinding meetings for the purpose of inviting the attendance of and soliciting information and views from government officials and private persons respecting subject matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee or subcommittee.

(f) Any person may submit a written statement at any business or factfinding meeting of a Committee or subcommittee.

(g) At the discretion of the designated Commission employee or his/her designee, any person may make an oral presentation at any business or factfinding meeting, provided that such presentation will not defame, degrade or incriminate any other person as is prohibited by the Act.

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§ 703.9 Reimbursement of members.

(a) Advisory Committee members may be reimbursed by the Commission by a per diem subsistence allowance and for travel expenses at rates not to exceed those prescribed by Congress for Government employees, for the following activities only:

(1) Attendance at meetings, as provided for in § 703.8; and

(2) Any activity specifically requested and authorized by the Commission to be reimbursed.

(b) Members will be reimbursed for the expense of travel by private automobile on a mileage basis only to the extent such expense is no more than that of suitable public transportation for the same trip, unless special circumstances justify the additional expense of travel by private automobile.

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§ 703.10 Public availability of documents and other materials.

Part 704 of these rules and regulations shall be applicable to reports, publications, and other materials prepared by or for State advisory committees.

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